



I spent last week working in the Nursery. Periodically, I like to spend time on the ground in different departments to make sure I am in touch with each part of the school.

It often provides fresh perspectives and inspiration. It led me to reflect on the importance of quality conversations with our children. One of the primary methods of teaching in Early Years is modelling through speech. This remains valuable to pupils all the way up to Sixth Form. I have therefore made a conscious effort to engage pupils in interesting and stimulating conversation whether at the Prep or Senior school.

Pupils are always insightful, and they really love to chat. Often as a parent, I feel the need to entertain my children. I think that we should perhaps curtail this instinct and just spend some time chatting with the children. We know it can boost attainment but children are also full of surprises.

I would like to thank the Year 6 pupils (India, Evangeline, Monty, Zach, Noah) for their attendance at both Founder's day and Remembrance Sunday. One of school values is 'Service' and all of Year 6 have been demonstrating this.

Whether as playground buddies, lunch time monitors or supporting events, they continue to set a fine example of selfless service to others.

I would like to thank all our parent volunteers and FOBAS who have been working hard in the run up to Christmas. Another fine example of selfless service.

Finally, I wanted to update you on our sustainability mission. The three areas we are focusing on this year are greening, repurposing and water.

I am delighted to tell you our saplings have arrived and on Monday 27th November we will be planting our Native Woodlands in Houses. The pavilion has also been converted into an outdoor learning space (currently named Ent's Retreat to weave in some literacy). Work will also begin on moving the Wellbeing Garden from its current location at the front of the school to the school field. Donations that were made to Maria Maslin's (our former Headteacher) fund will be used to help with the works. I have contacted Maria's family to share the plan, and they will be involved in the works.

One final request from Richard Malewicz, our Sustainability Development Lead, please can you collect and donate your avocado stones. We are planting an avocado forest to help green our interior spaces. It seems a poetic way of offsetting the airmiles from an avocado! We are also collecting other seeds in the lobby, so please look and see what you have.

Thank you.

Craig Austen-White
Headteacher - Prep School



Bodiam Castle

Despite some wet weather, Year 1 and 2 had a wonderful trip to Bodiam Castle. The children enjoyed learning about the history of the castle and the different aspects of castle life, but the highlight had to be the armoury tour! Mrs Cocks



Year 5 - Maths

On Tuesday six Year 5 pupils travelled to St Andrew's in Eastbourne for their Annual Maths Competition. They took part in a variety of activities, including, broken calculator, tangram, dominoes and make 24.

After all six rounds, our three pairs did exceedingly well, finishing 5th, 9th and 19th out of 31 pairs.

I am very proud of all the children's performances at this event - Well done Josh, Raffie, Felix, Sam, Elodie and Phoebe!

Miss Broad

U9 Hockey Team

On Thursday our U9 Hockey A team travelled to Beechwood. We played both their A and their B teams, resulting in a winning score of 4 goals to 2. Goal scorers were Ashley, Madison, Orla and Angelica.

Player of the match, selected by the Beechwood girls, was Ashley.

I was very impressed with our team's sportsmanship and teamwork. They have improved so much since the start of the season. Well done girls!!!

Year 3

Year 3 have been looking at world maps and finding different locations. We have looked at our clothes and the food we have in school, where it has come from and then we plotted these on a map. We were quite surprised with some of the results with only our yoghurt coming from the UK and salad cream from Ireland!

